

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph at page 1, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

**--CROSS REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation application of and claims the benefit of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/430,377, filed October 29, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of and claims the benefit of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/347,953, filed July 6, 1999, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/754,721, filed November 21, 1996, which are incorporated in their entirety herein by reference for all purposes.

This application makes reference to the following commonly owned patents and patent application, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference for all purposes:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/614,913, entitled, "A FAST METHOD FOR DETECTING INVERTED TEXT IMAGES ON A DIGITAL SCANNING DEVICE" (Attorney Docket Number 015358-000620);

U.S. Patent Serial No. 5,893,908;

U.S. Patent Serial No. 5,854,854; and

U.S. Patent Serial No. 5,465,304.--